

Lehigh Valley Chapter

# American Guild of Organists

October 2018

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## Chapter Officers 2018–2019

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[janeerrera@aol.com](mailto:janeerrera@aol.com)

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484-863-9052  
[erinpetrella@gmail.com](mailto:erinpetrella@gmail.com)

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610-438-3766  
[sfbueker@icloud.com](mailto:sfbueker@icloud.com)

## Executive Committee

Susan Hartney (2019)  
Robert Richelderfer (2019)  
Janice Butz (2020)  
Luke DiGiacinto (2020)  
Eric Gombert (2021)  
Jackie Kuba (2021)

[www.lvago.org](http://www.lvago.org)

## Dean's Mixtures

As we navigate difficult times in our society, I am always pulled back to asking myself what I can do to make a positive impact. And that always brings me back to considering the relevance of what I do. I think no matter what our profession, we need to answer the question of why it is relevant, and in our profession, I think it is even more urgent. Some tell us in ways subtle and not-so-subtle that traditional organ music and choirs are irrelevant.

ARE we??

Of course we want to feel important, but there are some pretty intense issues going on in the world around us. Why would anybody want to listen to an organist play music written by dead composers when it's difficult to get the daily news off one's mind? Gone are the days when people go to church because they feel compelled by peer pressure or fear of others' judgement, let alone sitting quietly trying to understand arcane organ and choir music because "it's the thing to do." It's not, anymore, for a lot of people. Maybe that answers the relevancy question for some people, but being a bit persistent, I ask myself, **could** we be relevant? **Should** we?



*Continued on page 2*

## October Meeting

### David Baskeyfield

Friday, October 19, 7:30 pm • *The Phantom of the Opera*  
Saturday, October, 20, 10:00 am • Masterclass/demonstration  
Sunday, October 21, 4:00 pm • Organ Concert

St. John's Lutheran Church  
5th and Walnut Streets, Allentown

### Dean's Mixtures

Continued from page 1

I think we all need to ask ourselves those questions, but I'll give my answers. The second question first—**yes**. If I want to get a paycheck for making music, then I feel it **must** be relevant. But let's be honest. **Could** it be? And if so, **why**? I think the answers to those questions are personal, and each of us really should think about this and find our own answers. But I'll share some of my thoughts.

Yes, I think we **could** be, and I think it's for a couple reasons. One is that I believe that while we have much fancier toys than hundreds of years ago, human emotions are pretty much the same. I don't believe it's because music is "pretty." First of all, different people find different things "pretty," and second of all, I believe beauty and prettiness are two different things. Something can be ugly (like a bulldog?) but be beautiful. When I taught Music Appreciation in college, I taught my students that beauty is about communicating an idea or an emotion, whether it's pretty or ugly, desirable or difficult. And I believe that the emotions and ideas Bach was attempting to communicate are pretty much the same emotions we experience nowadays, just provoked by different things.

So I'd say if we're all focused on impressing people with lots of correct notes, then nope, we're not relevant. Computers are better at that than we'd ever be. But if we are about finding the emotions and ideas in the music of great composers and then somehow getting that across to people, then yep, we could be relevant, depending on how successful we are. Remember, these are *my* answers to the questions.

My other answer about why we **could** be relevant is also related to motivation. I personally think our society needs less separation and more empathy and togetherness. And I feel that music is a cooperative art. We can be models of empathy and togetherness both in how we work with our choirs and others, but also in the respect we give to the music itself. If we're choosing pieces in which we find relevant emotions (maybe emotions that help comprehend society's issues) and we do our best to express those emotions, then we are being empathetic to the original composer, and I believe our playing will also telegraph that caring empathy to our listeners. And if we do that, we'll give people a **reason** to listen.

Ta-da! **relevance!** Why? Because we are doing more than entertaining. (Honestly, it is difficult to **entertain** people with organ playing these days.) We are showing them that empathy really does exist, and we might even help them find their own feelings.

We can be examples in our own little worlds. Does society need:

- More kindness? Then we must be kind to those we direct.
- More empathy? Then let's be empathetic to our choir members and the composers of our music.
- Less separation? Then let's be loving to those we disagree with, musically.

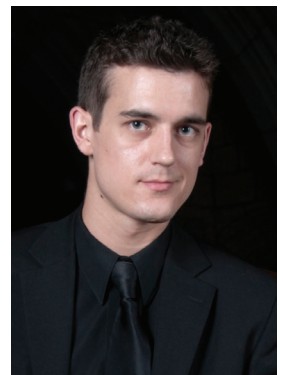
Let's use our music to begin creating the loving world we'd like to live in. We don't have to fade away in irrelevance if we are willing to ask the hard questions and find new ways to be relevant.

—Tom Dressler, Dean

## October Meeting

**A weekend with David Baskeyfield**  
English virtuoso organist

Mr. Baskeyfield began his organ studies at St. John's College, Oxford. He continued his work at the Eastman School of Music where he was awarded his doctorate. He is currently Director of Music at Christ Episcopal Church, Pittsford, NY, the largest Episcopal congregation in New York outside the City. He has been the recipient of an unusual number of first prizes in playing competitions including the AGO National Competition in Organ Improvisation as well as the Canadian International Organ Competition.



**Friday, October 19 • 7:30 pm**  
**The Phantom of the Opera**  
Silent film with organ accompaniment  
(come in costume if you wish)

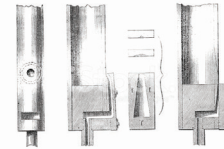
**Saturday, October 20 • 10:00 am**  
**Masterclass/demonstration**  
 LVAGO members will perform

**Sunday, October 21 • 4:00 pm**  
**Organ Concert**

Selections by Bach, Mozart, Dukas and Dupré

Co-sponsored by Arts at St. John's and the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. All three events at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 37 South 5th Street, Allentown. Community Parking Deck entrances are on 6th & Walnut streets.

Thanks, too, to the many members who submitted titles of music they have at the ready for "Play Something Quick!" moments. A list of more than one hundred titles was distributed. If you were unable to attend the meeting and you'd like a copy of the handout, just send an email to Jane Errera, [janeerrera@aol.com](mailto:janeerrera@aol.com), give her your mailing address, and she'll send a copy to you.



## September Meeting

Our first meeting of the year, "Play Something Quick!" gave us an opportunity to hear organ music that our colleagues might play when they are called upon to "fill in the blanks" during a worship service or any other time when the organist is asked to "save the day." In addition to playing music in a variety of styles, organists Bob Riday, Bob Richelderfer, Gary Raish, Erin Petrella, Dodd Lamberton, Jane Errera, and Tom Dressler provided program notes and stories about their selections.

Our host, Bob Richelderfer, told us the history of The Presbyterian Church of Catasauqua and the **1868 II/18 Johnson organ**, an instrument which served the players well. Bob, his wife, Faye, and other church members prepared and provided a wonderful brunch, giving attendees a time for good food and good fellowship.



Thanks to all who participated, organists and listeners alike. Everyone seemed to find the morning worthwhile and enjoyable.

## 2018–2019 Programs

**Saturday, October 20th 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Organ Masterclass with David Baskeyfield**  
 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 37 South 5th Street, Allentown

**Sunday, October 21st at 4:00 p.m.**  
**David Baskeyfield, Concert Organist**  
 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 37 South 5th Street, Allentown

**Saturday, November 10th 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**"Rejuvenating Senior Voices"**  
**Workshop with Michael Kemp**  
*Lunch prepared by Social Tea Caterers (\$15)*  
*or bring your own*  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 3231 West Tilghman Street, Allentown,

**Sunday, January 27th 2019 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**"Potluck!"**

*A members' recital of whatever you want to play*  
*A members' potluck supper of whatever you want to bring*  
 St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 474 Vine Street, Bethlehem

**Saturday, February 9th (Snow:16th) 2019 Time TBA**  
**"Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza"**  
*A program to introduce young people to the organ*  
 Place TBD

**Sunday, March 24th 2019 at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Annual Bach Marathon**  
 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 37 South 5th Street, Allentown

**Saturday, April 6th 2019 Time TBA**  
**AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists—Chapter Level Competition**  
 Cathedral Church of the Nativity  
 321 Wyandotte Street, Bethlehem

**Sunday, April 28th 2019 at 3:00 p.m.**  
**AGO National Chaplain Donald Saliers presents**  
**“Reinvigorating Ourselves”**  
 Wesley Methodist Church  
 2540 Center Street, Bethlehem

**Sunday, June 2nd 2019 at 4:00 p.m.**  
**Annual Young Artist’s Recital**  
*Featuring Aaron Patterson, current AGO Pogorzelski-Yankee Scholarship Awardee Annual Banquet and Annual Meeting*  
 Christ Lutheran Church  
 1245 West Hamilton Street, Allentown

## Oct/Nov Concerts

**October 6 (Saturday) 1:00 pm; Master Class with David Lutz;** Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Free

**October 7 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; Bernstein and Sondheim Celebration Choral Concert;** Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Adults: \$20, Students: \$10

**October 14 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; Bricolage Project;** Choral program of early and new music; Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasio; Freewill: \$5–\$10 suggested

**October 19 (Friday) 7:30 pm; The Phantom of the Opera;** Silent film with David Baskeyfield, organ; St. John’s Lutheran Church, Allentown; Freewill offering

**October 21 (Sunday) 4:00 pm; David Baskeyfield, organ;** Works by Bach, Mozart, Dukas and Dupré; St. John’s Lutheran Church, Allentown; Freewill offering

**October 24 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; The Waters of Glacier;** Jill Haley, oboe; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

**October 26 (Friday) 7:30 pm; Robert McCormick, organ;** Creative and notable abilities in organ improvisation and engaging performances; Allen Organ Company, Macungie; Tickets: \$15

**October 31 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; The Snack Club;** Carl Zeplin, guitar, Mike Eben, saxophone, Ken Kemmerer, tuba; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

**November 7 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; Chad Fothergill, organ;** Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

**November 14 (Wednesday) 12:05 pm; Cocalico High School Chorales;** Kristen Diehl, director; Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading; Freewill offering

**November 17 (Saturday) 7:30 pm; Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra;** *Spirit of Vienna*; First Presbyterian Church, Allentown; Tickets: 610-434-7811, [www.pasinfonia.org](http://www.pasinfonia.org)

**November 18 (Sunday) 3:00 pm; Valley Community Orchestra;** Founded 2015. Committed to sharing their talents to the wider community; St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Bethlehem; Freewill offering



## Organist Substitute List

If you would like to be included in the Organist Substitute List please forward your Name, Contact Information (phone/email) and Availability (Sundays, weekdays, etc) to Stephen Bueker, 2520 Clark Place, Easton, PA 18040; [sfbueker@rcn.com](mailto:sfbueker@rcn.com).

Ruthann Brandt	Mon–Sat	610-262-3304
Janice Butz	Mon–Fri	610-882-9388
Stephen Cable	Mon–Sat	484-866-6019
V. Mark Dennis	Mon–Sat	610-867-0385
Carol Dzurenda	Sun and Sat	215-538-7273
Kevin Freaney	Sun–Sat	610-283-1944

Ellen Erb	Sat	570-350-0343
Eric Gombert	Mon-Sat	610-435-1641
Gail Hanzl	Mon-Sat	610-264-5859
Bryan Holten	Mon-Sat	585-633-8705
Michael Huffman	Mon-Sat	610-433-6563
Joe Kaczmarek	Sun-Fri	484-433-4336
Jacqueline Kuba	Mon-Sat	570-386-4480
Michael Kuhnert	Mon-Sat	215-536-4345
Dodd Lamberton	Sun-Sat	484-935-3505
Andrew Lutz-Long	Mon-Fri	610-704-7805
James Matz	Sun-Sat	610-367-8094
Linda Maule	Mon-Sat	610-258-5006
John McEnerney	Sun-Fri	215-794-7338
Richard McIntyre	Mon-Sat	908-283-4691
Randall Perry	Mon-Fri	570-325-9440
Erin Petrella	Sun-Sat	484-863-9052
Maria Prochnau	Sun-Sat	610-866-2560
Karen Scott	May-Sep	610-737-1701
Michael Seroka	Mon-Fri	570-386-2378
Brian Snyder	Mon-Thu	484-838-0977
Donald Vaughn	Mon-Sat	610-966-0682
Matthew Wary	Mon-Fri	610-473-8777
Stephen Williams	Mon-Fri	610-737-5196
Stephen Ziminsky	Mon-Sat	610-417-2669
Freda Zimmerman	Sun-Sat	610-381-3089

**Website:** [tgsucc.org](http://tgsucc.org)

**Contact:** Ruth Collie, 215-536-7213,  
Ruthcollierg@comcast.net

**Weekly services:** 1

**Ensembles:** Adult Choir—15, Youth/Jr. Choir—8,  
Handbells—10

**Instruments:** 3 manual Allen

**Music budget:** TBD

**Weekly attendance:** 80

**Position fill date:** ASAP

**Deadline:** 9/30/2018

**Total hours per week:** 6

**Salary:** \$12,000–\$15,000

**Weeks vacation:** 1–2

**Benefits:** book/music allowance, secretarial assistance

**Notes:** None listed

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## Placement

### Choral Director(1)

**Organization:** Emmaus Chorale

**Website:** [www.emmauschorale.org](http://www.emmauschorale.org)

**Contact:** Nancy Keeler, Chair of Choral Director Search  
Committee, 4160 S. 6th St., Emmaus, PA 18049  
[nancykeeler@icloud.com](mailto:nancykeeler@icloud.com)

**Ensemble:** 35–40 members

**Music budget:** \$1,000, Chorale has a large music library

**Position fill date:** January 2019

**Deadline:** October 24, 2018

**Total hours per week:** 4

**Salary:** \$1,500

**Notes:** Currently, the chorale performs two concerts a year, one in June, and the other in December. There is typically a 14 week rehearsal schedule per concert with rehearsals on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30. A complete job description may be obtained from Nancy Keeler, Search Committee Chair, at [nancykeeler@icloud.com](mailto:nancykeeler@icloud.com)

### Music Coordinator/Organ & Piano(2)

**Church:** Trinity (Great Swamp) UCC, P.O. Box 494,  
9150 Spinnerstown Road, Spinnerstown, PA 18968

### Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Mark Dennis, 484-666-8511  
[vmdennispa@juno.com](mailto:vmdennispa@juno.com)

### Placement Service

See the Placement page on  
[www.lvago.org](http://www.lvago.org), for information and the  
Placement Service Information Sheet.

### Newsletter Deadline

Next Edition: Thursday, 10/18/18



*In silent film no one can hear you scream!*